

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: DALMAZZONE et al
Serial No.:
Filed: February 6, 2002
For: Method And Device For Evaluating During Drilling
The Capacity of Well Fluids To Form Hydrates
Group:
Examiner:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner
for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 6, 2002

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits of this application and prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the efficiency of an anti-hydrate additive is tested by adding it to said fluid sample in determined proportions.
4. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein T1 and T2 are 20°C and 35°C respectively.

5. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the thermograms are obtained with a temperature gradient ranging between 0.5 and 5 °C/minute, preferably at 2 °C/minute.

6. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein CH₄ is used for said gas.

7. (Amended) A system for implementing the method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that it comprises in combination : a calorimetric measuring device, means for placing the measuring cell of said device under pressure by means of a hydrocarbon gas, thermogram recording means.

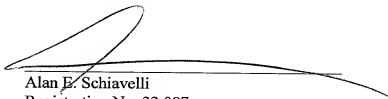
REMARKS

The foregoing amendments are respectfully requested prior to examination on the merits of this application. A marked up copy of the amended claims is attached.

To the extent necessary, applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 612.41120X00), and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

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REWRITTEN MARKED UP COPY

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the efficiency of an anti-hydrate additive is tested by adding it to said fluid sample in determined proportions.
4. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein T1 and T2 are 20°C and 35°C respectively.
5. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein the thermograms are obtained with a temperature gradient ranging between 0.5 and 5°C/minute, preferably at 2°C/minute.
6. (Amended) A method as claimed in ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, wherein CH4 is used for said gas.
7. (Amended) A system for implementing the method as claimed in ~~any one of the previous claims~~ claim 1, characterized in that it comprises in combination : a calorimetric measuring device, means for placing the measuring cell of said device under pressure by means of a hydrocarbon gas, thermogram recording means.